

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the Specification by replacing paragraph [0001] with the following paragraph:

[0001] This application claims priority to international patent application PCT/US03/17540, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/385,232, filed Jun 3, 2002, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the Specification by replacing paragraph [0009] with the following paragraph:

[0009] The present invention relates to the use of bacteria of the genus *Dietzia* for the treatment of various diseases. The invention includes the use of an isolated bacterium identified as *Dietzia* sp. C79793-74 and deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), located at 10801 University Blvd, Manassas, Virginia 20110-2209 USA, as Accession Number PTA-4125 on March 7, 2002, for the treatment of various diseases.